**Title**: Requested the Ministry of Post & Telegraph to prevent impending strike of the postal employees and to improve their service conditions.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am referring to the postal employees strike which is to commence on 2nd May, next week. It will definitely paralyse the entire postal service. This is a matter pending before the Postal Department for long. I want to draw your attention to the deplorable conditions under which the Extra-Departmental staff work in the Postal Department. There were several meetings which were held earlier also. There was a strike previously. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, several notices were given in respect of this issue. I myself raised the issue. The hon. Minister was pleased to convene a meeting with the parties concerned and an amicable settlement was entered into. But the settlement was not being given effect to....(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, there are other hon. Members also. They want to raise some matters. Please conclude.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have received a note from the Lok Sabha Secretariat informing the steps taken by the Government to improve the conditions of service of the postal employees. But, in fact, no improvement has been made. On going through the statement, which was sent by the hon. Minister's Office and which was, in turn, circulated by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, I find that it does not specify the concrete steps they have taken to prevent the strike. It is better to prevent the strike from taking place because the poor people will be put to difficulties.

So, I would request the Government to intervene in the matter, call a meeting of the employees of the Postal Department and settle the matter before 2nd May. I would further request the Government not to put the people to difficulties and make the postal strike a reality.

I would again request the hon. Minister to convene a meeting and settle the matter at the earliest.